



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
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NEWS RELEASE

The Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Mexican Consulate Sign Important Document

CHICAGO, IL., April 5, 2001 Brian R. Perryman, District Director of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), and Carlos Manuel Sada, Consul General of Mexico in Chicago signed an agreement today that ensures the effective communication and cooperation between the Consulate and Mexican nationals in INS custody.

This document was developed after several meetings and discussions between the Mexican Consulate and the INS and follows the guidelines of binational agreements between the United States and Mexico. The agreement formalizes cooperative efforts to solve situations between the Mexican government and the INS at Chicago, which are consistent with the formal consultation mechanisms set-up between Mexico and the United States.

"This is the second time in the history of the INS in Chicago that this type of agreement has been signed and implemented with the Mexican government and I look forward to continuing a positive working relationship with Consul General Sada," said Brian R. Perryman. "The United States and Mexico are interrelated in so many ways that it is our responsibility as government officials to ensure that we foster a positive and open relationship between the two countries."

This agreement continues and expands several practices. Among these practices, the INS will notify the Mexican consular office in the event that Mexican nationals are apprehended and detained by the INS. Mexican consular officials will have the opportunity to visit with Mexican national detainees at the INS detention facility with the supervision of an INS official. In addition, the INS will show a videotape to all Mexican national detainees before they are processed which contains a message from the Mexican Consulate. The detainees will also have the chance to request from INS officials that an immediate relative visit them at the detention center.

Consular officers and INS staff will continue to meet once every two months in order to discuss, clarify, and coordinate activities in areas of mutual interest and concern.

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